

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-23 are pending in the present application.

At the outset, Applicants wish thank Examiner Azupu for the helpful discussion with their undersigned Representative on May 11, 2004, and for the helpful suggestion to correct the inadvertent typographical error. Applicants have amended Claim 1 to provide the proper units for the surface tension of hydrophilic polymer (A-2). Specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to reflect a surface tension of the hydrophilic polymer (A-2) of 30 to 70 “mN/m,” not “N/m.” Support for this amendment is found on page 9, lines 2-4.

No new matter has been introduced by the present amendment.

Finally, Applicants note that JP 3-111530 has been improperly listed as JP 3-11530 on Form PTO-1449 filed, on January 25, 2002, and on the International Search Report. The Office clearly recognized this error as it kindly provided Applicants with an English translation of JP 3-111530 on September 25, 2003. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants submit herewith a new Form PTO-1449 listing JP 3-111530. Applicants request that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of the properly listed reference by returning an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

Applicants respectfully request that the amendment be entered. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.
Registration No. 50,552

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 08/03)
NFO/VKS